

TOWN OF EUREKA
January 16, 2009

EXHIBIT 7
DATE Jan 16, 09
HS 6

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee,

For the Record, I am Aubyn Curtiss, Senate District 1,
which includes Lincoln County in its entirety.

I empathize with you in making the hard decisions required
of you, and I don't totally understand the ranking system.

However, I do have grave concern that the Eureka Town
Water Improvement application be approved. It is not only
a matter of public health, but public safety as well. If this
project is allowed to go forward almost 70 low income
families now underserved by a water supply plagued with
bacteriological problems in the Mountain View Trailer
Court would get safe drinking water.

Of even more importance is that it would provide fire
protection for the trailer court and the Highway 93 Corridor
where no protection now exists.

Thank you so much for re-considering this request and the
opportunity to comment.

Proposal Abstract

Applicant Name: Town of Eureka, Montana
Project Name: Water System Improvements

The Town proposes to expand and improve their distribution system to provide public water services to the Mountain View Trailer Court, a residential living area located in the Town's planned growth area. The trailer court is located north of the current Town limits and west of Highway 93. The area is currently served by a private public water system that has a documented record of water quality violations, primarily bacteriological violations. Existing development in this area is fairly extensive and all of the current development utilizes on site wastewater disposal systems. The groundwater wells in the area have elevated nitrates supporting the contention that the water supply problems at the trailer court are related to the sewer drainfields in the area.

The extension of the water system to the Mountain View Trail court includes placement of new water main along a portion of the Highway 93 commercial corridor. The main extension will provide fire protection service to a portion of the existing commercial area on Highway 93.

The improvements include replacing 2 blocks of existing distribution system on 5th street with 14" pipe, extending 14" and 12" water main north along Highway 93 approximately 4,300 linear feet, extending 8" water main approximately 900 linear feet west into the Mountain View site and construction of a looped 6" water main to serve the trailer court. These improvements will provide a safe water supply for the residents and fire flows to the existing development.

Improvements will include safety upgrades to the chlorination room of the Town's water system.

The proposed project results in resource conservation, resource management, and citizen benefits.

- Resource conservation benefits are provided through improved efficiency and utilization practices by installing water meter pits for each of the trailer court users as part of the project.
- Resource management benefits are provided through replacing an existing water supply that has been plagued with bacteriological problems with the Eureka public water system.
- Citizens benefits are provided by providing a safe drinking water supply for the residents of the Mountain View Trailer Court and by providing fire protection capabilities where fire protection does not exist in the trailer court and the Highway 93 corridor.